2/5/97 - CIA, request, personal files, etc

You people have children. Can you teach them the difference between right and wrong when wrong is right to you? Can you teach them to respect the law and to live by it when you are in contempt of the law yourself and violate it regularly? Can they learn simple honesty from parents to whom dishonesty has become a way of life, a need of life?

What can possibly be in your minds when you reflect about your days of work, when you go to bed at night after spending days abusing innocent Americans and then abusing the laws by which we are all to live? To what god do you pray in church or in your private meditations?

You are practicing authoritarianism, varying in degree from the original storm-troopers only. The principle is the same. An American who does not oppose native authoritarianism is as remiss as one who does not oppose those of foreign lands. More so, I believe. If you ever provide your intercepts of my mail you will provide proof of my opposition to all foreign authoritarianism. Or is this why, after all these years, you are still stone-walling my six-year-old request partialy compliance with which was made to AP and others when it had not been made to me?

I do not know what I can do but I do know what I want to do. It is to make every effort to hold each of you responsible in court. When it is possible I will do this. I have established an estate that will be able to continue the effort. I regard this as a minimum requirement of real patriotism, of dedication to basic American principle.

This newest outrage of yours, of the Agency and by you personally, did prompt me to consult counsel. He will proceed as soon as he can. I not only ask when I can now surely expect full compliance with my PA request that goes back six years but with all the others not complied with. All are long overdue under your own contrived statistics.

Under the law the Agency can waive all fees and charges, including those I have paid. I now ask for this. I have begun the deposit of all my records in an archive in a university system. These are historical records that should be available for research and scholarship. They serve a public interest. They serve no selfish or commercial interest for me. And I have made no reservations relating to myself in this archive. I want all these records, no matter how corrupt or dishonest, to be on deposit. I regard them as indispensible in the archive. I hope you will cease deleting what you delete improperly, a matter of your personal responsibility. You have already deleted in what was provided me what was not deleted in what was provided others. The most casual examination establishes there was no basis for the obliterations. I tell you again I do have many of your records that you have not provided and that are not immune and are clearly within the requests. You have given me but a minor fraction of the relevant records. So I am not only asking for the waiver of costs, I am asking for honest copies of what has been provided with dishonest claim to exemption.

Here I make a new requests, now that the Agency has admitted its intrusion into my first-amendment rights. I am asking for a list of all publishers of any kind with whom the Agency has had these kinds of associations whether or not in the Agency's own name and for copies of all records relating to book-publishing and non-publishing as they relate to me without expurgations. This is, of course, a duplication of my long-standing request. But I want to leave no room for deliberate misinterpretation and you have now admitted a review of the relevant files so there is no legitimate excuse, no claim of the need of time for review or search. This includes all interceptions of manuscripts, and they were intercepted, and all publishing-related activities, mine and yours as they relate to me, directly or indirectly. The number of pages released precludes the inclusion of all these records among those described in this AP story.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg